administrative work from economic developmental activities at the district level are being considered by the Union Government; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The Committee constituted in March, 1985 by the Planning Commission to review the existing administratvie arrangements for Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation Programmes had, *inter-alia*, made the following recommendations in its report submitted in December, 1985:

"The Committee is of the view that development administration at the district level has to be treated as major activity involving significant responsibilities.

The Committee, therefore, recommends that a post of District Development Commissioner (DDC) be created to look after and coordinate all the developmental activities in the district.

The DDC may be made the Chief Executive of the Zila Parishad in those states where the Panchayati Raj institutions hold the responsibility for planning and implementation of various development programmes.

In those states where Zila Parishads are not in position, the DDC could function as Chairman and Chief Executive of the District Development Council.

The office of the DDC should be of a higher status than that of the District Collector in order to establish the primacy of the Development administration over maintenance administration."

Views and the comments on the above and other recommendations of the Committee have been called for by the Planning Commission from the State Governments, Union Territory Administrations, etc.

Technical Wing of Controller of Insurance

2010. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to wind up the technical wing of the Controller of Insurance Office and do away with the technical staff;

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether in view of the growing business in the insurance sector Government propose to reconsider the matter to retain the technical staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) For some time, Government have been finding it difficult to get suitable personnel with the prescribed professional qualifications etc. to man the technical posts in the Insurance Division by promotion from the existing staff or from the open market and a number of these vacancies consequently remained unfilled. A detailed review was recently undertaken of the role and functions of the Controller of Insurance and the Technical Wing. It has now been decided that the basic and core functions of the Controller of Insurance and the Technical Wing shall continue to be retained in the Ministry while some more functions and responsibilities, in the perspective of nationalisation of the Life Insurance and General Insurance business, may usefully be delegated to LIC and GIC. Appropriate arrangements have been made to ensure that the Government continue to receive necessary technical support and advice in the Insurance Division.